

SC'S COMPETITIVE

EDGETM

Fall 2009

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & GROWTH through EDUCATION

IT'S ALL GREEN:

*New green jobs help
homeowners save money*



Message from the System President



Enrollment numbers are growing at an unprecedented rate. The average increase across our 16 technical colleges is 18%, while some colleges have grown by as much as 30%. All told, the technical colleges currently serve more than a quarter million South Carolinians.

Through the SC Technical College System, both traditional and non-traditional students are trained to be ready for immediate work. In addition, a quality education at one of our colleges offers students the lowest tuition cost available and the greatest flexibility, allowing students to quickly attain the skills needed for a career in an in-demand line of work. The technical colleges often provide the quickest path to a job for many South Carolinians.

While the System is experiencing this dramatic increase in enrollment, we are at the same time experiencing one of the most drastic decreases in funding since our inception in 1961. The cuts have required us to reassess our business model and processes making adjustments accordingly; however, we remain steadfastly committed to our mission of promoting workforce and economic development by providing affordable, accessible, quality education to the citizens of South Carolina.

You'll see in this issue of *EDGE* many of our programs designed to do just that. readySC™, our economic development training program, recruited and trained its 250,000th South Carolinian this past year and looks forward to working with companies such as Boeing in this upcoming year. Apprenticeship Carolina™, a relatively new division, has grown apprenticeship programs in the state by 156% in the past 2 years and is averaging more than one new registered program each week. QuickJobs Carolina™ launched earlier this year and provides specialized training to displaced or underemployed workers in as little as 90 days. These programs represent just a fraction of the many programs and services we offer that are designed to increase the employability of all South Carolinians.

We have also included in this issue our 2010-2011 legislative priorities. Our state is facing a very challenging economy and our goal during this difficult time is to maintain our current funding in order to continue to effectively serve the people of South Carolina. I encourage you to read and support our legislative agenda on page 13.

Our System — the colleges and statewide programs and services we offer — is more important than ever to the economic well being of our state. Through the SC Technical College System, we are not only preparing students of all ages for real work today, but also demonstrating a commitment to increasing the employability of all South Carolinians and ultimately enhancing the quality of life for all.

In short, when you think jobs, think the SC Technical College System.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barry W. Russell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.

Barry W. Russell



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College News

What's Happening at Our 16 Technical Colleges

Creating a Win-Win through Apprenticeship

Apprenticeship Carolina™ Continues to Raise the Bar

On a Tuesday night in October at Eastman Chemical Company in Sandy Run, South Carolina, ten chemical operators and five material movement operators gathered in the company's banquet room. Family, friends, co-workers and supervisors were present. The tables were set, dinner was being catered and the mood was especially festive. The occasion was the recognition of these 15 men and women as graduates of a rigorous three-year apprenticeship program at Eastman.

Over the past three years, these graduates have participated in 6,000 hours of on-the job training and a minimum of 432 hours of job related education in classroom and lab environments as well as through shadowing and mentoring. They each have made a tremendous commitment of both time and energy to reach this point.

Ann Marie Stieritz, director of Apprenticeship Carolina™, addressed the graduates during the ceremony. "You are to be commended on your amazing accomplishment. You have worked hard and should be very proud of yourselves. The state owes you a debt of gratitude because today you raised the bar – you have contributed to raising the skills level of our state. You have made us more competitive. You have made us stronger. You have made our future brighter."



Steven Waugh, Eastman HR Representative and Ann Marie Stieritz, Apprenticeship Carolina™ Director

Executives at the company also applauded the group on a job well done. When asked to express how the apprenticeship program has impacted her personally, Christina Ciriello, a chemical operator graduate, commented "I feel appreciated. I am also very proud of myself. I've accomplished things that I didn't know I could do and now when I see a problem I'm more positive about being able to fix it. I'm better off than a lot of my friends. I make more money and have an interesting job. I hope that completing this program will demonstrate my dedication and hard work ethic and hopefully lead to even more opportunities at Eastman."



Eastman Chemical Company apprenticeship graduates

The overarching theme of the evening was one of appreciation and pride in a job well done. The event clearly demonstrated the win-win aspect of an apprenticeship program. Eastman has 15 new graduates that are not only highly skilled in their trade but invigorated by the investment in and true appreciation of their growth. The graduates have not only a personal sense of accomplishment but also a new title within the organization and a nationally-recognized credential attesting to the knowledge and skill level they have attained.

More About Apprenticeship Carolina™

What is an Apprenticeship?

An apprenticeship is a time-tested method of employee career development that combines supervised on-the-job learning and job-related education. A program “registered” with the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) shows an employer’s visible commitment to developing a high-quality workforce that meets nationally recognized training standards. Registered apprenticeship programs also enable employees to receive incremental wage increases as they demonstrate new competencies throughout the training program.

The History of Apprenticeship Carolina™

In 2002, a study by the SC Chamber of Commerce found that “[a] systematic structure should be created for encouraging the development of apprenticeship training opportunities state-wide.” In 2003, the Hays Report documented that “for an apprenticeship program to be a success, it cannot simply ignore... faith in the value of college.” The report concluded that “[f]or apprenticeships to be accepted in South Carolina, they will have to include the possibility of continued education” and that “the best central organization for promoting apprenticeship programs in the state would be the SC Technical College System.”

In 2007, Apprenticeship Carolina™ was formed as a division of the SC Technical College System designed to ensure all employers in South Carolina have access to the information and technical assistance they need to create demand-driven registered apprenticeship programs. Apprenticeship consultants guide companies through the registered apprenticeship development process from initial information to full recognition in the National Registered Apprenticeship System. These

services are available to South Carolina employers free of charge.

The Success of Apprenticeship Carolina™

- Since its inception, Apprenticeship Carolina™ has grown registered apprenticeship programs by 156% and increased the total number of active apprentices by 143%.
- Apprenticeship Carolina™ averages more than one new employer-sponsored program each week.
- 44 of South Carolina’s 46 counties now have at least one registered apprenticeship program and all 16 of the technical colleges are involved in Apprenticeship Carolina’s™ outreach and expansion of employer participation.
- 89 new registered apprenticeship programs in the 2008-2009 fiscal year.
- Recognized by the US Department of Labor as a national model for apprenticeship expansion and for collaboration among state agencies engaged in workforce development.
- The Community College Futures Assembly recognizes Apprenticeship Carolina™ as one of ten workforce development innovative best practices for technical and community colleges across the country.

The Services Provided by Apprenticeship Carolina™

Apprenticeship Carolina™ consultants work with employers in South Carolina to understand the registered apprenticeship training model and identify existing models for the occupations of interest to their specific companies. Consultants work with employers to connect them with appropriate resources and service providers to assist with their program as well as draw up the employer’s Apprenticeship Standards and Training & Education Outline for submission to the USDOL for full recognition in the National Registered Apprenticeship System. In addition, Apprenticeship Carolina™ consultants assist employers with program revisions or updates as workforce needs evolve.

To find out more about Apprenticeship Carolina™ and whether an apprenticeship program is right for your organization, please visit our website at www.apprenticeshipcarolina.com or contact us at 803-896-5287 or by email at apprenticeshipcarolina@sctechsystem.edu.

No Place Like Home

How readySC™ Training and Recruitment Efforts are Helping a Fort Mill Company Assist Distressed Homeowners



A young boy plays in the backyard as his mom watches from the kitchen. He loves this yard - on any given day, it's a jungle, a raging sea, an alien planet. This backyard is his whole world. He doesn't notice his mother's frown as she watches him through the kitchen window, he doesn't see her sadness. What he doesn't know is that his world is in danger, not because of lions or pirates or space monsters, but because of something much more cruel - economic downturn. His parents are facing unexpected financial hardship, and the possibility of losing their home is becoming more and more likely.

But there is hope.

Titanium Solutions, located in Fort Mill, SC, partners with key stakeholders in the mortgage industry to facilitate contact between servicers and homeowners who are having problems meeting their loan agreements, before it's too late. Titanium's ultimate goal is to put the homeowner back in communication with their mortgage servicer so they can find a way to avoid foreclosure. And, with the recruitment and training support provided by readySC™, Titanium is able to make that connection.

"We are tasked with working with people who are going through severe financial hardship, and you'd be amazed at the difference it makes when they hear an empathetic voice on the phone who is professional, and who understands what our servicers are offering them," says Patrick Carey, Titanium Solutions, CEO.

Titanium Solutions, a subsidiary of Titanium Holdings, leads the industry in providing homeowner contacting and counseling services. The company opened its Fort Mill facility in late 2008, and provides loss mitigation services and modification processing for many of the nation's largest mortgage servicers, primary mortgage insurers, government sponsored agencies and counseling agencies. Servicers see a need to help homeowners, and partner with Titanium Solutions to contact their clients to help them resolve issues. Titanium then assists in gathering documents and financials for servicers, and discussing homeownership preservation options.

Beginning in March, Titanium began working with readySC™ to develop a training and recruitment plan for their new hires. The plan was to hire employees in small increments to meet the needs of its current

contracts. Then Titanium received a new contract this summer that required an immediate expansion of its workforce.

readySC™ partnered with the Employment Security Commission (ESC) and Titanium to develop a recruitment plan tailored for the company's needs. readySC™ met with Titanium to collect specific job titles, qualifications for each position and developed an advertisement strategy based on those parameters.

“Our partnership with readySC™ has become an integral part of our hiring and training processes.”

—Collette Mattmiller, Corporate Recruiter, Titanium Holdings

A focused advertising campaign then targeted local media, including print, cable news, One Stop Offices, York Technical College's website, Craigslist and *Career-Builder.com*. Resumes were collected and candidates were taken through several iterations of approval, including interviews with both ESC and Titanium. Titanium then chose 94 qualified candidates for a targeted job fair, which was held within one month of the initial ads. The job fair, which included a recruitment video prepared by readySC™ highlighting Titanium's job responsibilities, allowed the candidates to get to know the company better, and vice versa.

“Our partnership with readySC™ has become an in-

tegral part of our hiring and training processes,” says Collette Mattmiller, Corporate Recruiter, Titanium Holdings. “They have become a valued resource to our organization, and we feel very fortunate to have the opportunity to work with them.”

In addition to recruitment, readySC™ is providing structured training classes for Titanium, including “Train the Trainer” and courses for the company's entry level positions. readySC™ is also developing new curriculum for other positions.

Patrick Carey describes the work that Titanium is doing: “We're meeting crucial needs for both our clients and homeowners at a time in the industry that some of us have never seen, so that makes it really exciting. And, quite candidly, we're doing a good thing.”

Tchernavia Vanderhorst, Loss Mitigation Supervisor, Titanium Solutions, couldn't agree more. “It's good to be able to help our servicers keep someone in their home, and that child in the backyard playing. It's very meaningful work.”

The boy is currently fighting off a band of pirates in his backyard, and doesn't hear the telephone ring or his mother answer. He doesn't hear the conversation that follows, nor does he see the relieved smile on his mother's face. He may never know about the people who reached out to his mother to facilitate the preservation of his home, but he will continue to play in his yard for years to come. And that's what matters most.



(left to right) **Rudy Carter, Chairman of Lancaster County Council; Dr. Greg Rutherford, President of York Technical College; Patrick Carey, CEO, Titanium Solutions; Tamara Buie, Senior VP, Human Resources, Titanium Solutions; Amy Tate, Project Manager, readySC™; and Larry Lindsey, Regional Area Director, readySC™**

Effectively Positioning the System for Success

Boeing's recent decision to locate its second production line in North Charleston is a huge economic development success for our state. The System is proud to have played a crucial role in achieving this win for South Carolina. The work of our technical colleges and readySC™, our economic development training division, not only played a pivotal part in Boeing's decision to locate in South Carolina but will lead recruiting and training efforts to build Boeing's workforce in Charleston. Yet, this represents only one aspect of the SC Technical College System and its paramount importance to the economic well-being of South Carolina.

You may or may not be aware that the SC Technical College System:

- Educates more than 250,000 South Carolinians
- Educates South Carolinians to live and work in South Carolina
 - 96% of our students are citizens of the state
 - 85% remain in the state after graduation
- Offers SC students the lowest tuition cost available and the greatest flexibility
- Gives students a cost effective pathway to obtaining a four-year degree
- Provides customized training and workforce recruiting for more than 100 organizations each year to successfully start-up greenfield operations or expand existing facilities in South Carolina
- Increased registered apprenticeship programs in the state from 90 to 230 over the past two years, an increase of 156%
- Increased the number of active apprentices from 777 to 1887 over the past two years, an increase of 143%
- Educates more than half of all students enrolled in a public college or university undergraduate program

- Serves a diverse population of students who sometimes find it difficult to gain an education in the traditional format through distance learning and other opportunities

These impressive statistics only represent a small sample of what the System offers. What's more, each of these statistics can be boiled down to the impact they make at a local level as well.

The Challenge...

When your impact is so far-reaching it is very easy for the message to sometimes get lost. The System represents different things to different people. The challenge in positioning the System for success was to connect these messages, focusing on what the SC Technical College System is all about — jobs.

Emphasis needed to be placed on the vital role the System plays in preparing the state's workforce for real jobs as well as its ability to drive future economic development and attract new companies. The positioning also needed to pull all the components together while not taking anything away from each component's individual brand equity. And, most importantly, the positioning strategy needed to be cost effective and extremely budget aware.

The Result...

An identifying seal that unobtrusively connects all the elements of the System together in a cohesive brand accompanied by a proactive drive to educate South Carolina's business and opinion leaders as to the vital role the SC Technical College System plays in the economic success of our state.



In short, when you think jobs, think SC Technical College System.

Area Commissioners are Planning for Another Strong Year of Advocacy

The Commissioners' Association is gearing up for a great year of advocacy. With a record number of students enrolled in the SC Technical College System, commissioners are working to ensure a two-year degree is the most accessible education to the citizens of the Palmetto state. Informing the General Assembly of the role of the SC Technical College System as being the state's leading workforce developer is one goal of the Association.

Advocacy Day 2010 will be a venue to promote the benefits of the SC Technical College System to the state's economy. Students receiving LTA funding have made a great impact on the legislature in the past at the morning's LTA Rally. The day will continue with meetings with local delegation. The evening's Legislative Reception is an opportunity for commissioners to thank their delegates for supporting the two-year colleges. Attendance at the January 2009 Legislative Reception was the highest to date of the event!

This year, the Commissioners' Association will honor past commissioners who have unfortunately passed away and those who are retiring after a decade or more on their local Area Commission. Plan to attend the ceremony which will highlight these commissioners' achievements. Please note the 2010 Legislative Reception will be held from 6-8pm at the Clarion Townhouse Hotel at 1615 Gervais Street.

SCATCC Legislative Reception

Mark your calendars for our reception on **Jan. 26, 2010** at the **Clarion Townhouse Hotel from 6-8pm**. The reception is being held in conjunction with the System's LTA Rally that same day.



SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF
TECHNICAL COLLEGE COMMISSIONERS
Advocates for Education That Works!

Jones Recently Named President of Spartanburg Community College

Spartanburg Community College recently selected Dr. Para M. Jones as the successor to Dr. Dan Terhune, who retired in early October after 13 years of service.

Dr. Jones is the fifth president of Spartanburg Community College and the first woman to ever lead the college. She has nearly 22 years of experience in community college leadership, most recently serving as vice president for advancement, planning and college/community relations at Stark State College of Technology in North Canton, OH.

"I was attracted to Spartanburg Community College because of the institution's many strengths, including economic development partnerships with

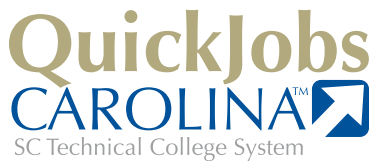


Dr. Para M. Jones

business, industry and the community," said Dr. Jones. "It is that aspect of the community college mission that drew me to academia in the first place and continues to drive my professional and personal work.

"As a comprehensive community college with high-quality and affordable technical and transfer programs, SCC is uniquely positioned to impact the lives of people and the economic development in the three counties we serve," she pointed out. "I look forward to working with SCC's board, faculty, staff, students and the community to carry out that important mission."

Dr. Jones has a B.A., magna cum laude, in English, communications and Spanish from Mount Union College; an MBA from Ashland University; and a Ph.D. in higher education leadership from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.



The Name Says It All

QuickJobs Carolina™ Gets People Trained and Working, Quickly

Jobs. It's the one topic on everyone's minds these days: where to find them, how to get them, how to keep them. Yet even with unemployment reaching record levels in our state, some companies are struggling to find qualified applicants. So how do you connect the people who need jobs most to the industries that are desperate to fill positions? The SC Technical College System's QuickJobs Carolina™ program may have the answer.



At the end of the day, the whole focus of this is getting people into jobs," explains Thom Mayer, QuickJobs Carolina™ Administrator. He is pictured above with Tina Coolidge, Program Assistant.

An elaborate partnership between the System, Department of Commerce, the State Workforce Investment Board (SWIB) and their partners, QuickJobs Carolina™ is designed to help unemployed candidates eligible for Workforce Investment Act (WIA) assistance. The program quickly provides these candidates with the entry-level skills needed for high-demand jobs in their area.

"Given the current economic downturn, you have folks losing jobs that won't be coming back. This presents an opportunity for that unemployed person to get training in a new skill that we know is in high demand by industry, and the training is at no cost to that person," says Thom Mayer, Administrator of the QuickJobs Carolina™ program.

The program started in earnest in mid-July, with all the participating colleges meeting the challenge to get programs up and running quickly. Funding is provided

by a \$4 million dollar grant from the State Workforce Investment Board through the Department of Commerce, and is managed by the SC Technical College System. Each college can apply for up to \$10,000 per course offering, which they must substantiate with a budget. This funding helps to build capacity to deliver courses through curriculum development and instructor training. The local WIB comes to the table with tuition money, and the college negotiates a reduced tuition for the candidate. For candidates, it is free as long as they are WIA eligible. Local OneStop Centers do assessments of the candidates to steer them towards careers in which they will likely succeed.

Five key industry sectors have been identified and targeted for training development across the state: Advanced Manufacturing, Construction Trades, Energy, Health Care, and Transportation and Logistics. Within each of these areas are nearly 30 course offerings, which vary across the state based on local job markets. The college sits down with local WIA and OneStop Center representatives to identify what is needed in their area and create corresponding programs to ensure that graduates have a high probability of getting a job.

"One of the key things about all of the program offerings is they must lead to an industry recognized credential," Mayer explains. "This helps make the student a more attractive hiring prospect and sets the pace for career progression in their field."

Currently it takes 3 weeks from application at a OneStop Center to actually get a candidate into the classroom. Once enrolled, training ranges from 3 or 4 weeks to 2 to 3 months depending on the type of program in which students are enrolled, but Mayer says they are constantly looking for ways to improve the process. "I would like to see this become a model for spending stimulus funds as efficiently and effectively as possible, and that quickly meets the needs of the unemployed."

To learn more about QuickJobs Carolina™, contact your local technical college or OneStop Center.

Meet Mark Franks

The Voice of the IET Program at Tri-County Tech Speaks Out

Mark Franks was one of the first to arrive in his Industrial Electronics Technology (IET) classes and the last to pack up and leave every day.

At 45, the Anderson resident says he never dreamed he would be a full-time student, mastering subjects he previously feared like math and computers. He had hoped to retire from the textile industry, a career he began in high school at age 16. But after 20 years and two layoffs from two different companies, he decided to enroll at Tri-County Technical College in 2007 and give Industrial Electronics a shot.

“Now, he is the voice of the IET program. He loves learning, and he loves Tri-County.”

—Robert Ellenberg, IET Instructor

“The third week of my first semester, I wanted to quit,” Mark remembers. “But (IET instructor) Robert Ellenberg wouldn’t let me. He said, ‘I’ll get you help,’ and I’ve been going strong ever since.”

“But I had to learn how to study again,” adds Mark, who took advantage of tutoring services offered by the Industrial and Engineering Technology Division.

“Mark was understandably nervous the first week or so,” explains Ellenberg. “But he had a good background and years of work experience. He was nervous about math and computers. He was so sure he couldn’t do it. But he has done well in those classes and in all subjects. Now, he is the voice of the IET program. He loves learning, and he loves Tri-County.”

“I’ve found I really like being around young people in class,” Mark admits. Those young people include two of his sons, Neal and Shane, IET majors who also hold down full-time jobs. Both entered the Industrial Electronics curriculum after listening to their father rave about how much fun he was having and the unlimited job opportunities for skilled people in the field.



Mark Franks, Tri-County Technical College graduate

His youngest son, Matthew, began classes at the Anderson Campus this fall.

“I think it’s the ultimate endorsement of the College and the program for a parent to encourage his children to come into our program,” says Ellenberg.

According to Mark, “The instructors bend over backwards for everybody. Whether it is English or math classes, teachers always tell us to call them if we have questions. They are here to help you succeed. Without the support from instructors, counselors and advisors, I would have quit.”

Mark Franks graduated Tri-County Technical College in August 2009 and is working as an Industrial Maintenance instructor at his alma mater.



Two Birds, One Stone

Weatherization: New Green Jobs Put More Green in Homeowners' Wallets

Can energy improvements in a home put people to work? The SC Technical College System is banking on it.

In partnership with the SC Office of Economic Opportunity (SC OEO), the System has established Energy Efficiency Training Centers at six geographically diverse technical colleges around the state. The purpose of these centers is to deliver short-term training programs, while increasing job growth and job retention in the field of weatherization.

The focus of the weatherization efforts is two-fold. One is to help some of our neediest citizens by providing weatherization upgrades and energy conservation services. The Department of Energy's Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) provides these services at no cost to low-income families, particularly for the elderly, people with disabilities and children. According

to the Department of Energy website, weatherization reduces heating bills by 32% on average, and overall energy bills by about \$350 per year. This allows families to spend the money they save on other essentials.

The second focus is to build the capacity to train the workforce needed to perform the weatherization improvements. This year, as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, \$5 billion in stimulus funds has been allocated to states, enough to weatherize 1 million homes across the country. For South Carolina, the stimulus bill directs \$58 million for weatherization of low income housing. The Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO), through the SC Weatherization Assistance Program, intends to weatherize 6000+ eligible homes by September of 2012 with this funding. Over 2000 of these homes are to be completed by September 31, 2010. This aggressive timeline requires that training pro-

grams for energy efficiency professionals and weatherization technicians be developed and implemented quickly so enough skilled people are available to meet these goals.

Starting July 1, 2009, the SC Technical College System sprang into action. By partnering with OEO and

"It's important to do this right, because you're not just saving people money, you could be protecting them from mold, gas leaks and fire hazards."

—Tom Yeoman, Project Team Lead

a variety of private, non-profit, Community Action Agencies (CAAs), 6 Energy Efficiency Training Centers (EETC) have been established. Within the first 90 days, each EETC was outfitted for approximately \$80,000 per center, which provided certifications for instructors, training materials and equipment.

The SC OEO determined that the initial standards used by the Community Action Agencies would be the nationally recognized Building Performance Institute's (BPI™) standards. The System became a BPI™ Affiliate, with the six EETCs providing the training.

Four qualifications have been established at the EETCs: Building Analyst (BA), Envelope Professional (EP), Manufactured Housing Professional (MHP), and Insulation and Air Sealing Technician (IAST). Classrooms and labs are provided by the local college to deliver both knowledge and performance pieces, with the goal of servicing not only the individual college area, but beyond. Colleges will work together to meet the needs of the qualifications.

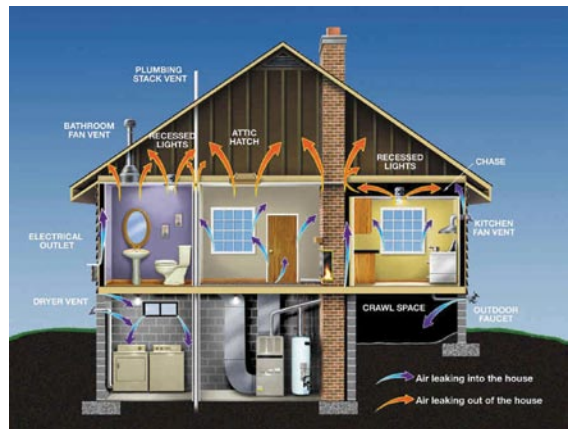
These programs represent very rigorous training events. "It's important to do this right, because you're not just saving people money, you could be protecting them from mold, gas leaks and fire hazards," says Tom Yeoman, Project Team Lead, who, with the technical college partners, facilitated the establishment of the EETCs "There's more science to weatherization than most people might think. Some of these technical skills are near engineering level."

continued on next page

South Carolina Energy Efficiency Training Centers

The following six technical colleges have established Energy Efficiency Training Centers:

- Horry-Georgetown Technical College
- Midlands Technical College
- Piedmont Technical College
- Technical College of the Lowcountry
- Trident Technical College
- York Technical College



Typical energy loss in a house



2009 American Recovery and Investment Act

\$5 billion in stimulus funds has been allocated to states – enough to weatherize one million homes across the country. For South Carolina, the stimulus bill directs \$58 million for weatherization of low income housing.



PHOTO COURTESY OF YORK TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Ed Moore conducts a “Blower Door test” to determine how much energy and money can be saved by correcting air leaks. This test depressurizes the whole house and measures the amount of air leakage that a house would have if subjected to a 20 mph wind from all directions.

Two Birds, One Stone, continued from page 11

Once the training is complete, an audit is done on an eligible house to determine what is needed. A weatherization team then comes in and does the required work, and following the weatherization, a validation audit is conducted by the CAA to ensure the work was executed to standard.

In addition to the short term goals of the weatherization training programs, the Electrical Cooperatives of South Carolina Inc. anticipates the need to weatherize 120,000 homes by 2020 to address carbon emission reductions. Initiatives such as these will increase the demand for workers with specialized energy efficiency/audit and weatherization skills. An increase in workers will mean an increase in training, and South Carolina and its EECTs will be ready with the capacity to meet those needs.

According to the Weatherization Assistance Program website (www.waptac.org), the positive impact of these efforts on the economy is remarkable. For every

\$1 invested in the program, weatherization returns \$2.73 in energy and non-energy related benefits. Weatherization creates 52 direct jobs and 23 indirect jobs for every \$1 million invested. It reduces national energy demand by the equivalent of 18 million barrels of oil per year and, in turn, decreases the overall environmental impacts of energy production.

***“For every \$1 invested in the program, weatherization returns \$2.73 in energy and non-energy related benefits. Weatherization creates 52 direct jobs and 23 indirect jobs for every \$1 million invested.*”**

Weatherization: it’s good for homes, good for jobs, and good for the environment. You can bank on it.

For more information on South Carolina’s weatherization efforts, contact the Governor’s Office of Economic Opportunity at (803) 734-0662. The SC Technical College System weatherization e-mail address is EnergyTraining@sctechsystem.edu

Legislative Priorities 2010-2011

Preparing South Carolinians for Real Work in the Real World



Lottery Tuition Assistance (LTA)

Budget Request: maintain \$47 million

One in three South Carolina technical college students relies on LTA. This funding provides access to affordable higher education and training necessary to enter or remain in the workforce. The goal of the System is to keep the award at no less than \$900 per semester.

Allied Health Initiative

Budget Request: maintain \$4 million

Over the past four years, the System has increased Associate Degree Nursing and Practical Nursing graduation rates by 33% and 44%. The System is optimally positioned to provide a statewide approach yet customize solutions locally to meet individual community needs for the ever-increasing demand for qualified healthcare workers.

CATT and readySC™

Budget Request: \$3.5 million

Last year, the Center for Accelerated Technology Training and its readySC™ program trained 5,199 employees for 92 companies. Funding for this initiative will ensure that funds are in place to assist eligible new and expanding companies in meeting their workforce needs in the upcoming year.

Lottery Technology Funding

Budget Request: maintain \$12 million

Designated technology funding is critical to innovative program delivery options as well as maintaining technology intensive areas of study. This funding allows the System to maximize return on investment by addressing common System-wide needs with a coordinated approach resulting in reduced duplication and improved efficiency.

Looking to the Future...

competeSC™

Budget Request: \$6.5 million

Nearly 800,000 South Carolinians have been identified as not having the training, education or skills necessary to fill the jobs currently available and those being recruited to the state. The SC Technical College System is the quickest way our state has to get these citizens better skilled and employable and ensure that our state remains competitive.

Allied Health Initiative

Budget Request: \$10 million

An appropriation of recurring dollars along with non-recurring funds will allow the colleges to meet critical allied health workforce demands as well as continue those services already in place.



Aiken Technical College

Nuclear Regulatory Commission Awards ATC \$95,000

Aiken Technical College (ATC) is pleased to announce it has been awarded \$95,000 to train radiation protection technicians.

The Nuclear Sector Technician Education Scholarship Program (NSTEP) will grant eligible students full scholarships to pursue their degree. These students will work towards an associate degree in radiation protection technology at Aiken Technical College.

Working together in partnership with the Department of Energy's Savannah River Site (SRS) for well over a decade, the leadership of Aiken Technical College has sought to coordinate their curriculum with the future employment needs of SRS.

"As the nuclear workforce has aged and with many retirements imminent, the need for radiation protection techs is growing and SRS and ATC are working in partnership to meet this need. We are working to find full-time students who are academically gifted with financial challenges as potential recipients for the NRC scholarships," said Dr. Tracy Pierner, Dean of Technical Education at ATC.

"ATC is uniquely equipped to provide a superior educational experience to students while also meeting the specific needs of the SRS, commercial nuclear and medical industries," according to Dr. Pierner. He added, "This program provides an amazing career opportunity for eligible students."

CENTRAL CAROLINA TECHNICAL COLLEGE

Construction Begins on New Health Sciences Center

A groundbreaking ceremony was held in September to recognize the construction of Central Carolina Technical College's new downtown building. An old building, near South Main and East Bartlette streets, is being converted into a new Health Sciences Center for the college.

Construction is planned to be finished in May 2010, and the building will feature state-of-the-art technology and will accommodate the increasing demand for people interested in health industry careers.

"We have seen a 28 percent increase in enrollment over last year," Central Carolina Technical College president Tim Hardee said. "When you see 28 percent growth in one year, and one-third of those students are in health sciences, that shows you the need for an expanded Health Sciences Center."

The new Health Sciences Center will have comput-

erized simulation models, which are programmed to behave and react similarly to real human patients, an operating room suite, and a phlebotomy laboratory, among other things. Above all, the new building will provide much-needed space for current students and faculty as well as allowing for more students.

"Once the health classes move downtown, the current health education building will host more science courses, including more biology programs," Hardee said, "as well as prerequisite general education courses required before students can move on to nursing classes."

"It's not just registered nurses," said Hardee. "There are a lot of other career options that are part of the health care industry. Kershaw (County Medical Center), Tuomey (Regional Medical Center), Clarendon Memorial Hospital, and even the many doctor's offices and clinics in the area count on the technical college as a source of qualified employees."



A Great Year on Its Way at Denmark

As the journey continues into another school year, Denmark Technical College (DTC) held its Fall 2009 Opening Convocation with their new Interim President Dr. Walt Tobin giving an unforgettable State of the College address. Faculty and staff gathered eagerly waiting to here from Dr. Tobin as he stood before them, full of energy with a vision of excellence and success.

Dr. Tobin began by asking DTC's faculty and staff, "What are the characteristics of a good working environment?" He pointed out that by making sure we give quality education, and the importance of faculty and staff being dedicated to their calling here at DTC, we are on the right road. He also said that it is vital to create a climate here at DTC of trust and respect. Do what is right for the students and do what is right for the college.



Dr. Walt Tobin

"What happens to the future of Denmark Technical College is up to us. Let's continue with the mindset that we will LIVE, *L-learning I -innovation, V-vitality, E-energy.*"

Dr. Tobin stirred up the faculty and staff with his words, "We must tell the story about DTC to the community. This is a place where we are doing great works."

As Dr. Tobin was coming to a close in his address, he said to the faculty and staff, "Create nothing less than excellence. Create energy, for energy breeds pride and pride breeds success."

The interim president left everyone with this provoking thought, "Now, are you a part of the future at Denmark Technical College?"

A round of applause sounding like thunder filled the room as faculty and staff stood to their feet. One faculty member was quoted as saying, "What a great year we are going to have."



Florence-Darlington Technical College Enrollment Tops 5,000

Florence-Darlington Technical College's (FDTC) enrollment has surpassed the 5,000 mark for the first time in 45 years. Enrollment now stands at over 5,200 students, a more than 16 percent increase from last year.

"Florence-Darlington Technical College has a long history of meeting the needs of area students and improving the quality of life of Pee Dee area citizens through assisting in economic development activities and creating a quality workforce," said FDTC Presi-

dent Charles W. Gould. "We are encouraged that so many area citizens have decided to pursue their higher education goals with us, and we are looking forward to continued growth in the coming years."

"It has been gratifying to see how faculty and staff have worked together to accommodate this large influx of students," said Dr. Gould, adding, "It has taken a concerted effort – with a lot of hard work and long hours on the part of many people – to make this work."



Simulation Technologies and Training (STAT) Center Opens

A \$1.5 million Simulation Technologies and Training (STAT) Center opened September 22, 2009 at Greenville Technical College, making the college one of very few in the country to use simulation technology to improve education for students in all health and nursing programs.

The center houses eight simulators in seven environments, including a city street where a car accident has occurred, a scene inside a home, an emergency room, an operating room, and a specialty room such as intensive care or pediatric intensive care.

The goal of simulation is to reduce medical errors, which are estimated to kill 44,000 people in this country each year. In Greenville Tech's new STAT Center, simulations are recorded so that students can see and

hear how they reacted to symptoms. Should the outcome be unfavorable, the human patient simulator is reset, the scenario plays again, and the student gets a chance to bring about a better outcome, something that couldn't happen in real life.



(left to right) **Keith Miller, Ph.D., Mike Fisher, Jerry Youkey, John J. Schaefer, III, M.D., and Steve Valand**



HGTC Dedicates Crime Scene Investigation Labs

Students at Horry-Georgetown Technical College (HGTC) are now learning in new crime scene investigation classrooms and laboratories. HGTC has over 100 students enrolled in the new CSI training courses, and the new labs, envisioned over two years ago, were dedicated in September 2009.

The expansion was needed to meet the training needs for crime scene investigation, strengthen the skills of students who will enter the law enforcement workforce, and train those who are already employed. The labs also eliminate the need for students and local law enforcement officers to travel for training.

"The college has had a long-standing, successful criminal justice program for at least two decades," said Dr. Marilyn Fore, HGTC's senior vice president for academic affairs. "With the increase in crime scenes and the need to train officers in the proper procedures in investigative work, the college determined that we needed to add an emphasis within our current CRJ program."

"The benefit to the students will be immeasurable," Horry County Sheriff Phillip Thompson said. "Under strict and professional supervision, they will be exposed to many current and futuristic investigative techniques."

Future plans include partnering with local and state law enforcement agencies to make the labs regional.



Midlands Technical College Partners with Benedict College

Midlands Technical College has created a “bridge” partnership with Benedict College. The partnership will allow Midlands Tech students interested in earning a Benedict degree to take part in the private college’s academic programs.

Benedict already accepts credits from Midlands Tech students who wish to attain a four-year degree, but Benedict College president David Swinton said the bridge program will offer Midlands Tech students new extracurricular activity privileges, such as membership in the marching band and use of the school’s library and labs.

Sonny White, president of Midlands Tech, said about 35 percent of his college’s 17,000 students enroll with the goal of earning a four-year degree. Midlands Tech

also has a similar program with the University of South Carolina resulting in about 400 student transfers a year.

White also thinks the Benedict program could put more African-American males, an underrepresented group in South Carolina colleges, on the path to four-year degrees.

“The bridge program is a convenient way for students to begin their education at Midlands Tech and still take advantage of the many great services and opportunities offered by Benedict,” White said.

Swinton and White both believe the timing was right to begin this program, as enrollment at both colleges is continuously increasing.



Northeastern Technical College Experiences Growth and Expansion

In addition to enrollment growth during the fall semester, Northeastern Technical College (NETC) is also experiencing growth in online learning and student outreach designed to increase access for students seeking a college education.

The college offered 24 original online courses during the Fall 2009 semester which was an increase of nearly 500 percent over original online courses offered during the previous fall. Because of the increase in offerings, more than 240 students took an online classes offered by the college resulting in a 160 percent enrollment increase over the previous Fall semester’s online enrollment (2008).

The college is also expanding student outreach through a Predominantly Black Institutions (PBI) grant. The grant has funded the development of the Training, Retaining and Uplifting Males to Produce Educational Triumphs (TRUMPET) program designed to foster and innovate sound learning outcomes among African American males. Additional services and communication designed for high school students seeking dual enrollment opportunities at the college have increased, and the grant is also making possible the implementation of a campus Portal which will serve as a central place for NETC students (and employees) to obtain, share and store information relative to their NETC experience.



Orangeburg-Calhoun
Technical College

OCtech Hosts Egyptian and Danish Students

Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College is hosting seven Egyptian students for a year through the Community Colleges for International Development. These students are studying a variety of programs ranging from Automotive, Small Business Management and Computer Programming. In addition to their studies, the students are taking in American culture with the assistance of several different host families.

OCtech also recently hosted seven Danish students from the Selandia College of Business in Slagelse,

Denmark. The students were on the OCtech campus for four weeks studying business through the Global Education Partnership Program. Several OCtech students will be visiting Denmark in May 2010.

Executive Vice President Donna Elmore noted that many of the students have been surprised to learn that Americans are not as often portrayed in the media. "That is a very important message for them to understand about America. They learn that we have more in common with our global neighbors than not."



Piedmont Tech's New Saluda County Center Open for Business

The doors to the new Piedmont Technical College (PTC) Saluda County Center were officially opened for business in August 2009 during an open house and ribbon cutting ceremony.

"This is a wonderful tribute to the citizens of Saluda County and South Carolina," said S.C. Lt. Gov. Andre Bauer.

"This journey started almost seven years ago and I am proud to have been a part of it," said William Whitfield, Piedmont Tech Area Commission Chairman from Saluda County. "This is a prime example of what can be achieved when people, business and local government work together."

The Saluda High School band performed selections and the national anthem while the colors were presented by the Saluda High School Navy ROTC. The more than 200 visitors were invited to tour the facility following the ceremony. Other speakers included Dr. Ray Brooks, PTC president who recognized officials from Aiken

Electric Cooperative, USDA Rural Development and the U.S. Department of Commerce who assisted with the funding of the facility, and Hardee Horne, Saluda County Council chairman who thanked the taxpayers of Saluda County.

The \$3.75 million project was funded through an \$810,000 bond referendum approved by the citizens of Saluda County as well as \$740,000 provided by USDA Rural Development through Aiken Electric Cooperative, Inc. Piedmont Technical College provided \$600,000 in funding and received a \$1.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration.

The approximately 20,000-square-foot satellite campus, located at 701 Batesburg Highway, is an advanced educational and training facility. The facility includes four state-of-the-art PEN rooms, seven classrooms, the new Agriculture program lab and a Certified Nursing Assistant lab.



Union County Advanced Technology Center to Open Soon

Spartanburg Community College (SCC) will open its new Union County Advanced Technology Center soon. Officials are hoping it will eventually help curb an unemployment rate in excess of 20 percent in Union county. The 14,000-square-foot facility, funded by a grant from the Department of Commerce and a Community Development Block Grant, is located on Highway 176 and will house three technical programs: welding, pipe fitting and Manufacturing Skill Standards Council certification.

Some classes are scheduled to start in mid-November 2009, with all programs beginning in the 2010 spring semester. Most of the students are recipients of scholarship money from an "individual training account" through Upstate Career Source, which op-

erates under the direction of the Upstate Workforce Investment Board.

"Career Source received \$2.7 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to provide grants for a training program that would help unemployed or underemployed workers from Cherokee, Spartanburg, and Union counties upgrade their skills in areas of high demand in the Upstate," said Debra Giordano, project director for Career Source.

SCC will also share the facility in a partnership with the University of South Carolina-Union, which will offer general education courses in the building for students to take as they fulfill transferable academic requirements while taking SCC's technical courses.



TECHNICAL COLLEGE
OF THE LOWCOUNTRY

Green Initiatives Continue at TCL

Three Technical College of the Lowcountry (TCL) industrial technology instructors have obtained the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Accredited Professional (AP) certification.

- Civil Engineering Technology Instructor Rick Eckstrom
- Computer Aided Design (CAD) Instructor Hadi Hamid
- Building Construction Technology Instructor Tim Newsome

The LEED AP credential is awarded by the U.S. Green Building Council to those who demonstrate an understanding of green building practices and principles and familiarity with LEED requirements, resources and processes. LEED provides a suite of standards for environmentally sustainable construction.

This fall, TCL launched a series of new and modified industrial technology programs that incorporate these green LEED techniques. The new green technology courses are being offered in building construction, civil engineering, computer aided design (CAD) and alternative energy construction. Many of these certificate programs can be completed in just one semester.

TCL is also demonstrating the possibilities of tidal energy generation on a small scale on the Beaufort River, where a generator is being setup to use the water's perpetual motion to create a small amount of power for TCL.

For details about TCL's green programs, call (843) 525-8241 or visit www.tcl.edu/green.



Officials Break Ground on Easley Campus

Legislators, county council members, and local business leaders joined college officials May 29, 2009 in breaking ground on a 37.51-acre piece of property on Powdersville Road in Easley that will become the site of the Tri-County Technical College's third branch campus. Construction began this summer on the first two buildings — one is a QuickJobs Training Center and the other is a Multipurpose Classroom and Technology Center.

The future Easley Campus will be located on Powdersville Road and will give the college a presence in each of the three counties. The campus will better serve the citizens of Pickens County by offering credit and continuing education courses to residents. In the past, residents traveled to the Pendleton, Anderson or Oconee campuses to take credit or personal interest classes.

The first building on the site will be the QuickJobs Training Center. It is funded through a \$986,364

grant from the State Department of Commerce to Pickens County. The QuickJobs Training Center will assist in workforce training and skills development for the college and for Pickens County. Instructors from the Corporate and Community Education and Industrial and Engineering Technology Divisions will teach training courses specifically based on locally identified needs and shortages. Projected opening date is late 2009 or early 2010.

The Multipurpose Classroom and Technology Center will be a 40,000-square-foot facility funded through State capital reserves of nearly \$6 million. The facility will house university transfer classes, computer and industrial electronics classes, as well as a Licensed Practical Nursing program. Non-credit classes (personal interest) and professional development will be offered through the Corporate and Community Education Division. The anticipated opening date for this multipurpose facility is Fall 2010 or Spring 2011.



Trident Technical College Named Military Friendly School

Trident Technical College (TTC) has been named a Military Friendly School for 2010 by *G.I. Jobs* magazine. The list honors the top 15 percent of colleges, universities and trade schools that are doing the most to embrace America's veterans as students.

Criteria for making the Military Friendly Schools list included efforts to recruit and retain military and veteran students, results in recruiting military and veteran students and academic accreditations.

As part of TTC's efforts to serve veterans on campus, a new VETS Center opened on TTC's Main Campus

in August 2009 with funding from the Success for Vets grant from the American Council on Education and the Wal-Mart Foundation. A place for student veterans to study as well as to network with other veterans, the VETS Center also has computers and space for students to use their laptops.

TTC's veterans educational benefits counselor is located in the VETS Center and is available to help veterans understand the opportunities available to them at TTC and assist them in identifying the programs that best suit their needs, from pre-college preparation through graduation.

WILLIAMSBURG TECHNICAL COLLEGE

...your college, your future

WTC Alumnus Publishes Fantasy Fiction Book

Former Williamsburg Technical College student David B. Floyd, Jr., turned adversity into a dream come true.

Following a severe automobile accident after his senior year of high school, he spent nearly two months in intensive care and more months of confinement to a wheelchair. As part of his rehabilitation, he was encouraged to enroll at WTC in general business and computer resource management classes. While there, he met English instructor Margaret Chandler who inspired him to create literary pieces based on his love of mythology and magic.

Several weeks ago, Floyd published *The Rise of the Dragon Prince*, in what is to become a fantasy fiction series entitled *Shadows of Krandom*.



David Floyd, Jr. and Margaret Chandler

"Holding this book in my hands was surreal," Floyd says, likening it to what he would imagine it would be like to hold one's newborn child. "I hope to inspire, entertain, and motivate people to read between the lines and find themselves a place inside my works to root themselves and grow." Floyd is already working on the sequel, which is tentatively entitled *The Seed of Evil*.

For more information on this book, go to www.shadowsofkrandom.com or search for "Shadows of Krandom" at www.amazon.com.

YORK TECHNICAL COLLEGE

York Technical College Offers Call Center Training in Lancaster

York Technical College, in partnership with the Lancaster County Economic Development Corporation, is offering classes in Lancaster to prepare men and women for customer service jobs.

In addition to the necessary technology skills required for such jobs, the new Customer Service certificate will provide participants with skills in problem resolution and writing. The certificate is also designed to improve

participants' keyboard and data-entry skills and help them to be more professional and effective communicators while learning to work both independently and as valued team members.



Call Center Training

Opening of Chester Workforce and Learning Success Center

York Technical College announced the opening of the Chester Workforce and Learning Success Center in Chester. The Center will provide career assessment and essential work skills training for those who are currently unemployed as well as adult education students, high school students and current York Tech students. Instruction will include a significant "learn-

ing to learn" component for individuals and small groups that will help them become better learners.

The Chester Workforce and Learning Success Center is being launched at a critical time for Chester County, which currently has an unemployment rate of more than 20 percent, third highest in the state.

